The use of pesticides is regulated by Ministry of Agriculture through the Central Insecticides Board. Production can be done only for those pesticides approved by the Registration Committee of this Board, after due consideration.

Postal staff quarters in Andhra Pradesh

31. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA : Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the districts in Andhra Pradesh where staff quarters for postal department are proposed to be constructed during 1989-90;

(b) whether such quarters will be constructed in Nalgonda District (A.P.) ;

(c) if so, whether land for their construction has been acquired in Nalgonda district (A.P.) ;

(d) if so, the locations thereof; and

(e) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO) : (a) Staff quarters are proposed to be constructed during 1989-90 in Nellore, Khammam, Guntur, East Godavari, West Godavari, Vishakhapatnam, Kurnool and Medak Districts.

(b) to (e) No, Sir. In Nalgonda District no site is at present available for construction of staff quarters. Sites are under acquisition. Staff quarters will be planned after the sites are available.

Production of push button telephones by I.T.I.

32. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Telephone Industries (ITI) has commenced commercial production of electronic push button telephones; and

(b) what is the production capacity of I.T.I in this field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The licenced capacity is 10·5 lakhs per annum. Production capacity is being set up progressively from 1989-90 onwards.

Hike in the MES of Petro-chemical Industries

33. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the rationale behind the recent hike in the MES (minimum economic size) of the Petrochemical Industry; and

(b) what steps are being taken by Government to prevent monopolies from dominating the industry as a result of the increased MES?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) and (b) No change in minimum economic sizes for petro-chemical industries has been made recently.

Power from gas based NTPC Units

34. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some northern state electricity boards are